

Terms to Remember:

consent of the governed = people consent to government

unalienable rights = rights people have not from government or law

liberties = freedoms possessed by people because they are human

rights = how much freedom is given up by the people for security

equal rights = all persons are treated equally under the law

basic functions of good government =

unite the people

provide a system of justice to hold people accountable

provide protection for domestic safety and security

provide protection against foreign threats & for defense

provide for the general welfare of all the people/stable economy

protect the people's liberties

republic = *form* of government balancing power over and control of the people with protecting the liberties of the people

federal = *structure* of government balancing power between various levels of government (national/state/local) and between branches of government (legislative/executive/judicial)

Questions for Discussion:

1. Who is in charge of the government of the United States and why is this idea so important?
2. Should any individuals or groups receive special treatment under the laws and regulations of the United States?
3. How does the governmental structure of the United States balance the competing interests of the people's liberty and security?
4. Does a republic or a democracy better serve the needs of the people?
5. Should groups of individuals today pay the price for discrimination in the past?
6. How should the government provide for protection against external threats?
7. Is it acceptable to collect massive amounts of data on the public without probable cause?
8. How do you decide what is acceptable behavior between individuals?
9. How do you decide what is acceptable control by the government?
10. Do people working in the government know better than the American people what the people need in terms of safety? healthcare? education? business and economic concerns?